17. *General.*—The work of the Department has proceeded very much on usual lines and there are no indications of any attempt to take up problems of development. Even with regard to routine administration, Government consider that more energetic action is necessary in regard to the collection of outstanding arrears, the supervision of sandal forests and the prevention of sandal smuggling.

K. V. ANANTARAMAN,
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.

Sakunibasavanahalli and Siddarahalli.

READ—

Government Order No. R. 3753-56—R. M. 18-22-2, dated the 1st March 1923, directing the removal, from the list of villages in the Kadur District, of Sakunibasavanahalli and Siddarahalli and the inclusion therein of Srinivaspur which is recognised as the name of the new village that has sprung up in their stead.

2. Letter No. 198, dated the 22nd December 1923, from the Survey Superintendent, soliciting orders in the matter of the merging of the lands of the villages abandoned, in the adjoining villages so as to enable the removal of the said villages from the list.

3. Correspondence ending with letter No. C. 2623—23-24, dated the 19—24th December 1924, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, recommending sanction to the proposal of the Deputy Commissioner, Kadur District, for merging both the villages of Sakunibasavanahalli and Siddarahalli in the Yemmedoddi kaval village which surrounds them.

ORDER No. R. 5025-8—R. M. 18-22-6, DATED 20TH FEBRUARY 1925.

The raiyats of Sakunibasavanahalli and Siddarahalli villages of Kadur Taluk, having complained in 1909 that their villages were insanitary, overgrown with lantana and infested with wild beasts, and requested that Jakkeri Amrut Mahal kaval lands may be granted to them for cultivation and for founding a new village, Government in their Order No. R. 5868-9—L. R. 7-09-41, dated the 19th April 1912, directed the grant to them of 500 acres of land out of the said kaval for the formation of a new village and for cultivation. An additional extent of 105 acres was also transferred in 1917, for the same purpose. The two old villages of Sakunibasavanahalli and Siddarahalli were accordingly abandoned and a new village sprang up on Survey No. 65 of Jakkeri Amrut Mahal kaval in the Chikmagalur Taluk. Government in their Order No. R. 3735-56—R. M. 18-22-2, dated the 1st March 1923, directed the removal from the list of villages of the two abandoned villages of Sakunibasavanahalli and Siddarahalli and the recognition of the new village as Srinivaspur.

2. The Survey Superintendent, requests orders for the merging of the lands of the abandoned villages in the neighbouring villages. The Revenue Commissioner who was consulted in the matter reports that they may be merged in the Yemmedoddi kaval which surrounds them. Government approve of the Revenue Commissioner's proposal and direct that the two abandoned villages of Sakunibasavanahalli and Siddarahalli be merged in the Yemmedoddi kaval village of the Kadur Taluk, and the new village formed out of Jakkeri Amrut Mahal kaval, *viz.*, Srinivaspur, being included in the list of the villages, Chikmagalur Taluk.

K. V. ANANTARAMAN,
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.

Appropriation of Agricultural Lands.

READ—

Section 63 of the Land Revenue Code empowering Government at their discretion to levy a fine, as well as the assessment or a lumpsum in commutation thereof, in the case of agricultural lands appropriated for non-agricultural purposes.

2. Government Order No. R. 26-37—L. R. 501-17-2, dated the 27th April 1919 laying down instructions regarding the conditions subject to which the conversion of agricultural lands into building sites might be allowed in the case of private owners and local bodies.

3. Rule XXII of the Rules under the Land Acquisition Regulation directing that when land is acquired for a local body, the Government may direct that the assessment should continue to be paid by the local body or levy a lumpsum in commutation of the liability to pay the assessment.

4. Letter No. C. 3997, dated the 29th September 1922, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, forwarding for the orders of Government, Bangalore Deputy Commissioner's Letter suggesting the levy of a special fine on assessed lands acquired on behalf of or made over to Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

5. Resolution No. XXIII of the Local Self-Government Conference of 1923, that "as it is the duty of the State to provide facilities for the housing of the poor and suitable sites for building purposes to remove congestion in towns and as the Municipal Councils have been performing the functions which were being formerly performed by the State. this Conference recommends to Government that Municipalities and Local Bodies be exempted from payment of penalty to Government for the conversion of agricultural lands to building purposes."

ORDER No. R. 5140-60—L. R. 137-24-1, DATED 26TH FEBRUARY 1925.

Under Section 63 (3) of the Mysore Land Revenue Code, an agricultural land when appropriated to any purpose unconnected with agriculture is liable to the payment of a fine in addition to any new assessment which may be leviable under Section 48 of the Code; and the limit of such a fine is fixed in Rules 58 and 59 of the Rules prescribed under the Code. The assessment on the land acquired may under Rule XXII of the Rules under the Land Acquisition Regulation, be commuted into a lumpsum payment equal to 25 years' assessment. The Local Self-Government Conference recommends the waiving of the conversion fine in the case of lands acquired by Municipalities and Local Boards for house-building purposes.

2. The Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, states that lands in urban areas command very high prices and that Municipal Councils make very large profits by disposing of them as building sites and recommends that

(1) when assessed lands under holding are acquired on behalf of, or when assessed unoccupied lands are made over to Municipal Councils or Local Boards, and where such lands are situated in areas to which the provisions of Rule 59 of the Land Revenue Rules apply, a fine at the rates prescribed in the said rule may be levied when such lands are converted into building sites or used for industrial or factory purposes and that the payment of assessment either annual or capitalised, need not be insisted upon and

(2) that when assessed lands are acquired or made over to Municipal Councils or Local Bodies for sanitary or other purposes, and not for building sites or for industrial purposes, assessment, whether annual or capitalised may be levied. The Revenue Commissioner agrees with the Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore.

3. In Madras and Bombay no fine is levied generally in the case of lands acquired under the Land Acquisition Regulation or in the case of assessed lands made over to Municipal Councils, Local Boards and Village Panchayets, for purposes which are not calculated to be remunerative to the local bodies concerned. Government consider that similar concession may be shown here also and direct that the conversion fine may be exempted in the case of agricultural lands acquired or made over to Municipalities, Local Boards or Village Panchayets for charitable purposes, or for other public purposes from which the Municipality or Local Body does not derive any profit—such as roads, hospitals, dispensaries, rest houses, musafirkhanas, travellers' bungalows, etc.

4. The following Rule will accordingly be inserted in the Land Revenue Rules as Rule 60A under a separate notification:—

"60 A—Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing Rules, no fines shall be imposed for the appropriation of agricultural lands made over to, or acquired under the Land Acquisition Regulation at the instance of Municipal Councils,

Local Boards or Village Panchayets for charitable purposes or public purposes from which the Municipality or Local Body concerned does not derive any profit—such as roads, hospitals, dispensaries, rest houses, etc."

5. As regards the assessment on lands acquired and appropriated for purposes of Municipal Councils, Local Boards and Village Panchayets, Government do not see any reason to waive it whatever be the purpose for which the lands are made use of by the Municipalities or Local Boards. The practice of levying assessment annually or in a lumpsum equivalent to 25 times the assessment will be continued.

K. V. ANANTARAMAN,
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.

PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARIAT.

Administration Report of the Public Works Department.

READ—

Administration Report of the Public Works Department for the year 1923-24, received from the Chief Engineer of Mysore, with his letter No. 6700, dated the 1st November 1924.

ORDER NO. P. W. 2477-83, DATED 17TH FEBRUARY 1925.

Recorded.

2. *Personnel.*—Mr. J. Bhore continued to be Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, in the Irrigation Branch, till 12th February 1924, when he was made combined Chief Engineer for Irrigation and Roads and Buildings and divested of Secretariat functions. Mr. H. D. Rice was Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, for Roads and Buildings. The latter officer, who had proceeded on furlough in April 1923, returned on 12th November 1923 and again proceeded on combined furlough for five months and twelve days with effect from the 13th February 1924, preparatory to retirement. Mr. K. R. Seshachar was Officiating Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, for Roads and Buildings, till 12th November 1923 and was appointed Special Officer and Secretary to Government, Krishnarajasagara Works, from 1st January 1924, and as Secretary to Government, Public Works and Electrical Departments, in addition to the above duties from 13th February 1924.

Rajasabhabhushana Mr. S. Cadambi continued to be Special Officer and Secretary to Government, Krishnarajasagara Works, till 31st December 1923, when he proceeded on two months' leave preparatory to retirement.

3. *Administrative Measures.*—The two independent administrative offices, one for Irrigation and the other for Roads and Buildings, constituted as a result of the Reorganisation of the Department in September 1922, were amalgamated, as a measure of economy, from 13th February 1924 and placed under the charge of one Chief Engineer who was made an administrative officer with no Secretariat functions. These functions, including those relating to the Electrical Department, were assigned to a separate Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, and Mr. K. R. Seshachar (who had been posted Special Officer, Krishnarajasagara Works) was appointed Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, including the Electrical Department as well as Krishnarajasagara, of which he continued to be in charge as the chief administrative officer as a special case.

The powers that were being exercised by the Chief Engineer were revised in view of the formation of a separate Secretariat.

4. *Grant and Outlay.*—The final grant for the Department under all heads for the year under review was Rs. 43,88,125, against which an outlay of Rs. 40,91,998 was incurred, resulting in a lapse of Rs. 2,96,127. Including the outlay of Rs. 2,19,540 incurred from sources, such as, contributions, etc., the total expenditure of the Department was Rs. 43,11,538.